

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. The Examiner states that the limitation concerning counting coins between players is not supported in the specification. Page 9, lines 10-11, specifically states "the number of coins shown on the numeric counter will continue from player to player until the system distributes a ticket".

The Examiner has rejected the claims based on 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to state that coins are counted from player to player.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6, 9, 12 and 16 as being obvious over Okuniewicz in view of Quinn.

The Examiner states that regarding the numeric counter continuing to count coins from player to player until the dispensing unit dispenses a ticket, Okuniewicz has no method for determining who deposits a coin. However, as stated above by the Examiner, Okuniewicz does not have a numeric counter for counting anyone's coins.

With regard to Quinn, the Examiner states that Quinn specifically teaches that once the player purchases a ticket and receives a ticket, the counter clears letting the player know if he wants another ticket, how much money has to be put in. It would make no sense to a user of Quinn to put a partial sum of money in for the next user would not receive any satisfaction for putting that money in and would not receive a ticket.

With regards to the present invention, a user places money in the slot machine in order to play the machine. The numeric counter counts the money played. If the user has symbols that match on the slot machine, the user wins. If the user's symbols do not match, the user does not win. The user can continue doing this for any length of time and the numeric counter continues to count the coins put in the machine. A user can leave the machine without winning a supplemental ticket and the next user can continue to play that machine until the numeric counter reaches a point when a supplemental ticket will be generated. With regards to Quinn, if the user was purchasing a \$2.00 lottery ticket and only placed a dollar in the machine, the user would not walk away from the machine because he did not receive anything in exchange for the dollar.

For all of the above reasons, Claims 1, 2-6, 9, 12 and 16 are not obvious over the prior art.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7, 8, 11, 13 and 18 as being obvious over Okenuwicz and Quinn and further in view of Castellano. For the reasons stated above, these claims are not obvious over the prior art.

Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance.

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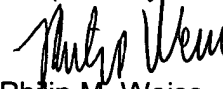
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Respectfully submitted,



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